

# THE WRIT



A publication of the El Paso Paralegal Association

an Affiliate of The National Association of Legal Assistants ♦ Paralegals, Inc.

May 2022



## President's Message

Happy belated Mother's Day to all our EPPA mothers and grandmothers. I hope your day was filled with love and laughter and that you were surrounded by family who love you and cherish you. Being a mother-paralegal is a very difficult job. The demands of your bosses, the long hours at a firm, meeting the expectations of our clients while juggling our children at the same time is not for everyone. Congratulations EPPA moms!



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We apologize for the delay in circulating The Writ this month. We had a speaker cancel on us at the last minute. As the courts begin proceeding with trials and settings, attorneys everywhere seem to be busier than ever. The EPPA board really wanted to bring you a presentation and CLE this month. We are grateful to attorney Jessica Mendez of the Mendez Law Firm, who agreed to speak for us in such short notice. We thank you, Jessica!

*(continued on pg. 2)*

## Notice of May Meeting

- When:** 12:00 p.m., **May 19, 2022**
- How:** Zoom videoconference (*forwarded separately by email*)
- Guest Speaker:** Jessica Mendez
- Topic:** *[Pending as of date of publication]*

Please join us on Thursday, May 19, 2022, for our May regular meeting and presentation by Jessica Mendez, to be held by Zoom videoconference at 12:00 p.m. A link to the Zoom videoconference will be forwarded separately to all members prior to the meeting.

Because EPPA needs to keep track of CLE participants for verification of hours submitted for CLE credit by those with CP and ACP credentials, we ask that members email Treasurer Laura T. Juarez, CP ([ltjuarez1007@gmail.com](mailto:ltjuarez1007@gmail.com)) after the presentation to request CLE verification when it is available (*the Board's email addresses can be found in the Our Board section later in this edition*).

## President's Message (*cont'd.*)

I would like to congratulate our student EPCC members who are graduating this month. May you find the love and passion in your paralegal career, as many of us have. I wish you all nothing but the best in this milestone in your life.

I hope you all enjoyed the EPPA Spring Seminar and the topics that were discussed. I welcome all our members to reach out to us and let us know what you would like to hear from our speakers in the upcoming months. I love learning about the different types of legal representation and the variety of cases that our fellow paralegals are encountering.

As I write this, I prepare for a long-needed vacation. I will be going to Florida for a week and enjoying my stay with a longtime friend of mine and her family. I met her over 25 years ago, and she later welcomed me to work at a firm she worked at as an immigration paralegal. We later became both senior paralegals at that firm where I learned, grew and trained many as a Personal Injury Paralegal. We became family through the years, working together, brainstorming cases, sharing lunches and happy hours. We worked some long hours at that firm. I truly cherish every friendship I have made in this field. I hope you all have a great summer and are getting out to enjoy our Sun City.



A decorative graphic with the text "Mother's Day Celebration!" in a red, serif font. The text is surrounded by a floral border of red and yellow flowers.



-Yvette Duran  
President

## Spring Seminar

# THANK YOU

*Special thanks to*  
Laura Christopherson  
Emily Dawson  
Evi Licona  
Kitty Schild

We are pleased that you could join us for our Spring Seminar on April 22nd. Without the support of attorneys like you, EPPA would not be able to fulfill its obligation of providing high quality CLE to its members.



The flyer features the El Paso Paralegal Association logo at the top center, with a building image to the left and a portrait of Emily Dawson to the right. Below the logo is the text "Virtual Spring Seminar" in a cursive font. The flyer lists four speakers with their photos and topics:

- LAURA CHRISTOPHERSON**: 8:00 am El Paso County Attorney will be discussing Protecting the Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities
- KITTY SCHILD**: 11:00 am 1st Elected woman as an El Paso County Judge; will be presenting on Suing and Defending Governmental Entities -The Government is Different -the King can do no wrong
- EMILY DAWSON**: 10:00 am El Paso County Attorney will be discussing Juvenile Drug Trafficking
- EVI LICONA**: 9:00 am El Paso County Attorney will be discussing Protective Orders

At the bottom, it states "April 22, 2022 8:00 - 12:00 p.m." and features a decorative background of pink flowers.

## May Speaker



**Jessica Mendez**, Managing Attorney at Mendez Law, specializes in Employee Law, Healthcare Law, Labor and Employment and Litigation.

For over a decade, Jessica Mendez has focused exclusively on blue-collar employees. She works hard to make sure that her clients' interests are protected. She has many years of experience serving El Paso in medical malpractice, municipal, and natural resources cases. Ms. Mendez has Bachelor of science in accounting. Licensed for 17 years, she is a personal injury and employment law lawyer in El Paso, Texas who attended St. Mary's University School of Law and received her J.D in 2004.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

EPPA's Board of Directors is very thankful to all those who have volunteered their time over the years to support our annual golf tournament fundraiser. It is because of people like you that EPPA is still able to meet its fundraising goals.

After a two-year break, EPPA will be holding its golf tournament in September this year at a new venue, Underwood Golf Complex.

Even if you have never participated before, please consider volunteering for this important project. Let's make 2022's golf tournament the most successful ever!

If not you, then who?  
If not now, then when?

Please contact **Jessica Lucero** ([jlucero@epcounty.com](mailto:jlucero@epcounty.com)) to see how you can help your Association.



Jose Gandara  
Lizette Morales



EL PASO PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION'S  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT  
**09.24.2022**  
UNDERWOOD GOLF COMPLEX

## ALREADY A MEMBER?

If you have recently changed jobs, moved or just have a new email address, PLEASE make sure that you update your membership records by notifying Vice President of Membership, Jessica Lucero, so that you can stay up-to-date with all events.

## HELP MAKE YOUR NEWSLETTER GREAT!

We are always searching for interesting, relevant content, and will gratefully accept and consider any content submissions received. Please feel free to submit self-authored articles, content suggestions, event notices, etc., through email ([laguilar@bickerstaff.com](mailto:laguilar@bickerstaff.com)). Thank you.

-Laura Aguilar, ACP  
Newsletter Editor



## OFFICER POSITIONS

No one committed to the President Elect or Vice President of Programs positions this year. These positions are **VITAL** to the continuation and growth of EPPA. We need more members in leadership positions. We need more member input in guiding us through this next year and beyond. **We need YOU!**

If you are new to the paralegal field and would like to have some leadership experience to put on your resume, please come join us. If you have been in EPPA for a while and just have not thought about stepping into a leadership position, what is stopping you? Time? We all have time pressures. You really can make this work. If you have been in EPPA for many years and you haven't served on the board in a long time, EPPA needs you. If you're tired of seeing the same people serving as officers year after year, change that! Get involved in **YOUR** Association.

If you have questions about the requirements and amount of time involved for these positions, please contact any of the Board members.







EL PASO  
**PARALEGAL**  
ASSOCIATION  
EST. 1982

# EPPA CHARITY ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

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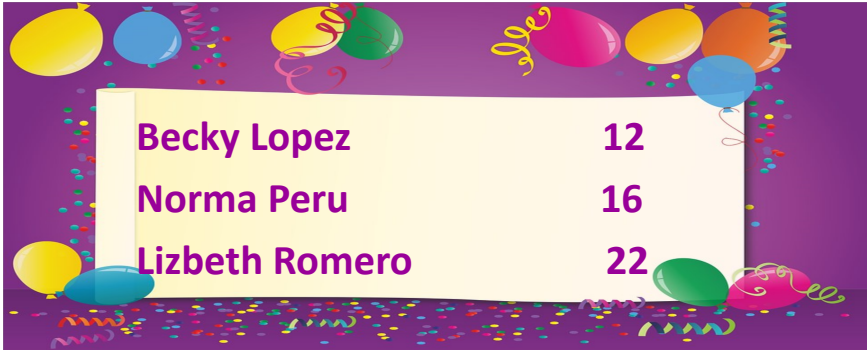
**Donations needed:**

Sweatpants, tops, slippers  
bedding items such as sheets and pillow cases, detergent, personal  
hygiene items for male and females in all sizes. Please contact anyone  
on the Board of Directors for pick up and drop off information.



**REMEMBER AND HONOR**

May Birthdays



Becky Lopez	12
Norma Peru	16
Lizbeth Romero	22

500 E San Antonio Room 1204  
El Paso, Texas 79901



Phone: 915-532-7052

Visit our website! [www.elpasobar.com](http://www.elpasobar.com)



EL PASO BAR  
ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS:

# FREE LEGAL CLINIC FOR ALL VETERANS

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL & THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

WHEN

Saturday, May 21, 2022 0900hrs - 1300hrs

WHERE

El Paso County Sherriff's Office Headquarters  
3850 Justice Dr., El Paso, TX 79938

Free legal consultations, referrals and informational presentations on a variety of resources available to veterans and active duty military in the El Paso area.

For more information, call:

☎ 915.532.7052

✉ [info@elpasobar.com](mailto:info@elpasobar.com)

El Paso Bar Association is looking for volunteers to provide free consultations for our veterans , active duty military personal & their family members. For questions or to volunteer please call our office at (915)532-7052 or email at [info@elpasobar.com](mailto:info@elpasobar.com)

*THANK YOU!*

# 2022 NALA CONFERENCE & EXPO

July 14-16, 2022, at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Phoenix, AZ

## YOUR CAREER IS A JOURNEY.

### Next Stop, Phoenix.

#### 2022 NALA Conference | July 14-16 | Phoenix, AZ

NALA is excited to announce our first-ever hybrid conference! This means you can choose to attend either in-person or virtually. This is your chance to earn up to 15 CLE hours from 30+ education sessions, network with fellow paralegals, and engage with leading experts.

The NALA Conference & Expo is the most anticipated paralegal event of the year. This year's conference in Phoenix, AZ will be no exception. To help support the inclusive needs of paralegals across the nation, NALA's excited to launch our first-ever hybrid conference. This means you can choose to attend either in person or virtually, July 14th through the 16th. All attendees will be able to participate in this 3-day educational event featuring a great opportunity to network with like-minded professionals, upgrade your paralegal skills, earn CLE credit, and much more. We hope to see you July 14-16 in Phoenix, AZ!

**IN-PERSON ATTENDEE OPTION:** In-person attendees will enjoy the luxurious JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Phoenix, AZ. In-person attendees can earn up to 15 hours of CLE plus attend several exciting in-person networking events. In-person attendees will be able to visit our vendor hall and interact face-to-face with a variety of vendors. In-person attendees will also receive a conference goodie bag as well as the entire 2022 NALA Conference & Expo Recording Bundle at no additional cost.

**VIRTUAL ATTENDEE OPTION:** Virtual attendees will be able to participate in the conference from the comfort of their home or office. Virtual attendees can earn up to 15 hours of CLE through livestream education sessions. Virtual attendees will be able to chat with other conference attendees and ask speaker questions during sessions. In addition, virtual attendees are provided access to all NALA Association meetings. Recorded sessions will be available after the conference for a discounted price.

Go to <https://nala.org/education-5/nala-conference-expo-2/> for more details, including a sample “Convince Your Boss” Letter.



# May 2022

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <i>EPPA Gen- eral Meeting via Zoom (12:00 p.m.)</i>	20	21 <i>El Paso Bar Assn. Veterans Legal Clinic</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27 	28
29	30 	31				

## Out Mission Statement



Thanks for being a member of  
El Paso Paralegal Association

AN AFFILIATE OF



El Paso Paralegal Association serves as a resource for paralegals to further its members’ development and advancement in the legal profession through higher paralegal standards, continuing legal education and self-regulation for all El Paso paralegals. El Paso Paralegal Association awards scholarships to students enrolled in the paralegal program at El Paso Community College, and offers reimbursement awards for members taking the National Association of Legal Assistants’ Certification Exam and the Texas Board of Legal Specialization Certification Exam. Through its various efforts throughout the year, El Paso Paralegal Association also strives to encourage its members to participate in community service and charitable work opportunities through El Paso Paralegal Association’s adopted charity, which is chosen each year by its members.

## Our Board

President	Yvette Duran ( <i>paralegalDL@labinotilaw.com</i> )
President Elect	vacant
VP of Programs	<i>vacant</i>
VP of Membership	Jessica Lucero ( <i>jlucero@epcounty.com</i> )
VP of Public Relations	Louise Elorreaga ( <i>lelo9228@aol.com</i> )
Secretary	Griselda Lasky ( <i>glasky@epcounty.com</i> )
Treasurer	Laura T. Juarez, CP ( <i>ltjuarez1007@gmail.com</i> )
Parliamentarian	Sandra Espinoza ( <i>sespinoza@umcelpaso.org</i> )
NALA Liaison	Laura T. Juarez, CP ( <i>ltjuarez1007@gmail.com</i> )
Newsletter Editor	Laura Aguilar, ACP ( <i>laguilar@bickerstaff.com</i> )

## Contact Us

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